

## **IN THE SUBSTITUTE SPECIFICATION**

Please cancel paragraphs 002 and 016 of the Substitute Specification, which is a part of the Preliminary Amendment filed with the application. Please substitute replacement paragraphs 002 and 016, as follows.

[002] The present invention is directed to a cutting device. ~~The~~ the cutting device is used for the transverse cutting of a web of material. It includes a cutting and conveying cylinder, and a first counter cylinder.

[016] Each one of the identically constructed first and second counter-cylinders 12 or 13 has a circumference with a circumference length corresponding to at least one, and preferably to two lengths of the signatures to be produced from the webs 03, 04. Each counter-cylinder supports at least one, and preferably supports two counter-cutting strips 15 which are cut or inlaid into its circumferential surface. These strips may be, for example, hard rubber strips, which are used as backstops 15 for the cutting blades 14 when these cutting blades 14~~15~~ are cutting the webs 03 or 04. A groove 24 is located directly behind, or after, each backstop 15 in the movement direction of the counter-cylinder 12 or 13 with each groove 24 being adapted for receiving the tips of the spur needles 23 of the spur strip 16 which tips of the spur needles 23 are, during their passage through the cutting gap 08 or 09, extended over the circumference of the cutting and conveying cylinder 11.